

truth? Is a person or a nation measured by words written or spoken or by ordinary deeds?

Is it what people say in prayer or on blogs or in the media that is most revealing? Or does silent and routine work truly record our deepest meaning?

The Scriptures seem to reveal You, Lord, as One who truly listens to people; yet our words tell You nothing. For You see all we do and fail to do. You even read human hearts.

You alone are the most high. You do not change. It is we who change as a nation, as a people; sometimes unknowingly, sometimes reluctantly, sometimes freely.

So have mercy on us, Lord, and reveal to us truth, now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. LOWEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 3352. An act to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 28, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, The Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 28, 2008, at 9:50 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the House amendments to the Senate amendment H.R. 3221

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 28, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, The Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 28, 2008, at 11:35 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H.Con. Res. 395

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled joint resolution was signed by Speaker pro tempore HOYER on Monday, July 28, 2008:

H.J. Res. 93, approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003.

WAR PROFITEERS

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, I bring you news from Iraq and the war profiteers that make money off this war.

According to the Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction and as reported by the Washington Post, a California contractor "was paid \$142 million to build prisons, fire and police stations that were never built or finished."

The Inspector General states, "Millions of dollars in waste are associated with incomplete, terminated and abandoned projects."

The biggest fiasco was an incomplete prison that was so poorly constructed that the floors are collapsing. This facility is totally useless to the United States and Iraqi governments.

Mr. Speaker, it seems to me this is yet another example of incompetence, waste, and possible fraud against America.

If crimes have been committed, the Justice Department needs to prosecute anyone that steals money from America during this time of war, because the long arm of American law even reaches crooked contractors in Iraq.

And where shall we send these people? To the well-built Guantanamo Bay Prison where we house war criminals.

And that's just the way it is.

TERRORIST BOMBINGS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, over the weekend the world was reminded that we face a global war on terrorism. Terrorists murdered or maimed hundreds of innocent civilians in India, Turkey, and most recently, yesterday in Iraq. These attacks, which numbered well over a dozen, are a stark reminder of the hideous nature of the enemy, who have declared war on modern civilization.

The groups responsible for these attacks are not always the same people. However, their motives in disrupting peace and prosperity and taking the lives of innocent individuals are the same as those who seek to kill American families. That is why we must stand together with our allies against such heinous attacks.

I want to express my deepest sympathies to the people of India, Turkey, and Iraq. If we are to defeat those who will murder innocent civilians and destroy the prosperity of free Nations, then we must work together. Despite their best efforts, our enemy's brazen disregard for innocent life will only strengthen our resolve.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION ACT

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, freedom is not the business of the Republican Party or the Democratic Party alone. It is not the business of liberals or conservatives alone. Freedom is the work of every American and every Member of Congress.

It was in that spirit that 3 years ago, I authored the Free Flow of Information Act with my colleague Congressman RICK BOUCHER from Virginia. The bill provides a qualified privilege to shield confidential sources from disclosure except in cases where national security or classified information is at issue.

Last year, the House proved that freedom is not an issue alone in the province of the left or the right by passing the measure with an overwhelming bipartisan vote.

Last week, the Washington Post and Washington Times proved the same. Newspapers with great liberal and conservative traditions alike have endorsed this vital legislation.

We learned this morning that the Senate may consider the Free Flow of Information Act as soon as tomorrow, and so I respectfully rise to encourage our colleagues in the other body to remember, freedom is not the business of Republicans or Democrats, liberals or